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10-25-72

SCORPION 66

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RNR57

MIDEAST - LEAD SHIPS 2 BONN:

P A SPOKESMAN SAID TWO ISRAELI VESSELS LADEN WITH U.S. ARMS HAD ALREADY SAILED FROM THE NORTHERN PORT OF BREMERHAVEN TO HAIFA.

A THIRD ISRAELI VESSEL ARRIVED THERE TODAY, BUT THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT HAD ASKED THE UNITED STATES NOT TO LOAD IT. "AND WE ASSUME IT WILL NOT BE LOADED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

WEST GERMANY HAS SOUGHT TO SET UP A BALANCED POLICY TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST, AND HAS ATTEMPTED TO REMAIN NEUTRAL IN THE CURRENT WAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT LEARN'D OF THE ARMS SHIPMENTS FROM BREMERHAVEN ONLY YESTERDAY, AND IMMEDIATELY CALLED IN U.S. CHARGE D'AFFAIRES FRANK CASH TO INSTRUCT HIM OF WEST GERMANY'S POSITION.

A SPOKESMAN AT THE U.S. EMBASSY HERE POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S. LAST WEEK INFORMED WEST GERMANY OF ITS INTENTION TO "RESUPPLY ISRAEL" WITH STORES FROM GERMANY.

BUT HE HAD NO COMMENT ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS.

(NO PICKUP RNR46)